

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ISLAMA 09904 190819Z

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FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7214

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISLAMABAD 9904

EXDIS

FOR THE SECRETARY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP, PFOR, PK

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S VISIT:JOINT STATEMENT AND
BHUTTO'S COMMENTS

1. I TALKED TO AGHA SHAHI LAST EVENING AT THE PRESIDENT'S
EID HOLIDAY RECEPTION AND HE SAID PAKS WOULD PREFER A
JOINT STATEMENT IF ONE COULD BE ARRIVED AT EASILY AND
IT SAID SOME OF THE RIGHT THINGS.

2. LATER LAST NIGHT BHUTTO TELEPHONED ME FROM LARKANA.
SAID HE WANTED TO WISH ME A HAPPY EID. I GAVE HIM
MY OWN FELICITATIONS OF THE SEASON AND WE TALKED OF HIS
INTERNAL TRAVELS , HIS COMING TRIP TO MOSCOW, HIS REGRET
THAT WE WOULD NOT HAVE A DISCUSSION BEFORE THAT
TRIP AS HE WOULD NOT RETURN TO THE CAPITOL, THAT HE
WOULD SEE ME AFTER THE MOSCOW TRIP AND BEFORE YOUR
ARRIVAL, ETC.

3. BHUTTO SAID SHAHI HAD JUST PHONED HIM WITH A REPORT
OF AZIZ AHMED'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT FORD AND OF HIS
CONVERSATION WITH ME. I SAID I DID NOT HAVE A REPORT
ON THE MEETING AS YET AND ASKED HOW IT WENT. BHUTTO
SAID HE THOUGHT QUITE WELL IN GENERAL, BUT HE THOUGHT
IT HAD NOT BEEN VERY SPECIFIC.

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4. BHUTTO REPEATED WHAT SHAHI HAD TOLD ME AS REGARDS A JOINT STATEMENT. HE SAID HE FAVORED ONE BUT WOULD NOT WANT TO WASTE TIME ARGUING ABOUT WORDS WHEN THERE WAS SO VERY MUCH TO TALK ABOUT (DID I KNOW, FOR INSTANCE, THAT THE SHAH WAS WITHDRAWING HIS TROOPS FROM OMAN-- NO. I SAID, I DIDN'T). WE AGREED THAT I WOULD MEET WITH SHAHI ON MONDAY, WHICH IS THE ONLY DAY HE WILL BE HERE BEFORE HE LEAVES FOR MOSCOW, TO DISCUSS AD-REFERENDUM THE CONTENTS OF A POSSIBLE JOINT STATEMENT. BHUTTO SAID HE HOPED IT COULD BE WORKED OUT TO THE GREATEST EXTENT POSSIBLE BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL AS HE WANTED A REALLY GOOD TALK WITH YOU WITHOUT QUIBBLING ABOUT PUBLIC RELATIONS WORDS. I TOLD HIM I THOUGHT THIS COULD BE MANAGED.

5. IF YOUR STAFF COULD FORWARD COMMENTS ON OUR SUGGESTED JOINT STATEMENT (ISLAMABAD 9894), OR A NEW ONE OF THEIR OWN IF THEY PREFER, PRIOR TO MONDAY MORNING ISLAMABAD TIME, IT WOULD BE MOST USEFUL TO ME HERE. AFTER OUR MONDAY MEETING THERE WILL BE NO ONE HERE IN ANY REAL AUTHORITY TO WORK WITH ON SUCH MATTERS UNTIL A COUPLE OF DAYS BEFORE YOUR ARRIVAL.
BYROADE

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